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RURAL DISTRICT of BUCKINGHAM

—

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

and

SURVEYOR

for the year

1962

List of Parishes in the Council's Area

Addington
Adstock
Akeley
Barton Hartshorne
Beachampton
Biddlesden
Charndon
Chetwode
Edgcott
Foxcote
Hillesden
Leckhampstead
Lillingstone Dayrell
Lillingstone Lovell
Luffield Abbey
Maids Moreton
Marsh Gibbon
Middle Claydon
Padbury
Poundon
Preston Bissett
Radclive-cum-Chackmore
Shalstone
Steeple Claydon
Stowe
Thornborough
Thornton
Tingewick
Turweston
Twyford
Water Stratford
Westbury

1962

BUCKINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman of Council :
G. J. Beckett, Esq.

General Purposes Committee

Chairman
A. Hodges, Esq.

Members :

W. G. Beckett, Esq.
C. Bryant, Esq.
S. W. Chapman, Esq.
S. M. Cotton, Esq.
W. D. Crawley, Esq.
Mrs. M. S. Crook.
J. Davies, Esq.
W. Durrant, Esq.
W. S. Leyland, Esq.
T. S. Mitchinson, Esq.
G. P. Purefoy, Esq.
D. A. Stewart, Esq.
Rev. W. J. Waker.
Mrs. N. White
A. J. Woods, Esq.
H. H. S. Wright, Esq.

G. J. Beckett, Esq. and A. Hodges, Esq.
ex-officio members.

Public Health Staff

Medical Officer of Health :
D. H. Waldron,
O.B.E., M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M. &. H., Col. I.A.M.C. (Retd.)
(The Medical Officer of Health is also M.O.H. for Buckingham M.B., the Urban Districts of Bletchley, Linslade, Newport Pagnell and Wolverton, the Rural Districts of Newport Pagnell and Wing, Area Medical Officer for North Bucks and Divisional School Medical Officer for the North Bucks Division and the Buckingham and Winslow District.)

Deputy Medical Officer of Health :
R. A. Atkinson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector :
J. C. Sharpe, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector and Deputy :
K. E. Richardson, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Administrative Assistant :
C. H. Bray.

Student Public Health Inspector :
T. J. Ayres.

BUCKINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,
School Lane,
Buckingham.
18*th June*, 1963.

To the Chairman and Members of Buckingham Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1962.

There was a total of 152 births during the year giving a Birth Rate of 17.9 per 1,000 of the population. This is a rise over last year and is practically the same as that for the rest of the Country.

The Death Rate shows a satisfactory drop and is now three points less than the rate for the rest of the Country. Of the total of 92 deaths, Heart and allied diseases and Cancer accounted for 63.

The Infantile Mortality Rate, which, in the previous year, had shown a sharp rise, this year shows a satisfactory drop. There were four deaths in this group, three of which were under the age of four weeks.

In the realm of Infectious Diseases we were free from any epidemic during the year.

I should like again to record another year of happy co-operation with your Clerk, Mr. Floyd, your Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. Sharpe, and their staffs.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your Obedient Servant,
Daniel H. Waldron.

SECTION A.

Vital Statistics

	1961	1962
Area (in acres)	54,543	54,543
Population	9,420	9,430
Number of Inhabited Houses ..	2,771	2,797
Rateable Value	£97,180	£102,063
Rate per £	20/8	22/2
Estimated Sum represented by a 1d. Rate	£358/-/-	£375/14/3
Births :		
Legitimate—Males ..	73	88
,, Females ..	64	58
Illegitimate—Males ..	–	4
,, Females ..	3	2
Birth rate per 1000 population	16.5	17.9
Do. (Bucks)	18.6	19.2
Do. (England & Wales)	17.4	18.0
Deaths—Males	68	52
,, Females	46	40
Death rate per 1,000 population	10.8	8.9
Do. (Bucks)	9.4	9.6
Do. (England & Wales)	12.0	11.9
Maternal Mortality Rate ..	Nil	Nil
Do. (England & Wales)	0.33	0.35
Infantile Mortality		
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age :		
per 1,000 live births ..	57.1	26.3
Ditto for Bucks ..	18.1	17.9
Ditto for England & Wales	21.4	21.4
Still Births	1	4

Principal Causes of Death:	1961 M.	1961 F.	1961 T.	1962 M.	1962 F.	1962 T.
Influenza	0	0	0	0	0	0
Respiratory Tuberculosis ...	0	0	0	0	1	1
Other Tuberculosis	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cancer	6	7	13	11	8	19
Diabetes	1	1	2	0	0	0
Cerebral Haemorrhage ...	9	7	16	9	10	19
Heart Disease	24	14	38	14	11	25
Other Circulatory Diseases...	2	2	4	3	1	4
Bronchitis	3	2	5	3	1	4
Pneumonia	7	2	9	1	2	3
Other Respiratory Diseases	0	0	0	0	0	0
Digestive Diseases	2	1	3	0	0	0
Nephritis	0	0	0	2	1	3
Pregnancy, Child Birth, Abortion	0	0	0	0	0	0
Congenital Causes	2	1	3	1	2	3
Accidents	4	0	4	3	0	3
All other Causes	8	9	17	5	3	8
Totals	68	46	114	52	40	92

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services

1. Laboratory Facilities.

Specimens for bacteriological investigation were sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Oxford, as in previous years. Specimens for qualitative and quantative analysis had to be sent to London.

2. Ambulance Service.

This service, administered by the County Health Department, is now radio controlled from Aylesbury, with a sub-station in Bletchley to cover the North Bucks Area. The service deals with all types of cases, general, accident and infectious disease.

3. Nursing Facilities.

The District Nurses in the Buckingham Rural Area carried out their duties in their usual conscientious manner.

4. Clinics.

(*a*) *Child Welfare Centres.* There are five static Welfare Centres serving the District, located as follows :

Buckingham (twice monthly)	Twyford (once monthly)
Steeple Claydon (do.)	Winslow (twice monthly)
Thornborough (once monthly)	

The work of the Mobile Welfare Unit continued during the year and the following villages were visited :

Akeley.	Leckhampstead.	Preston Bissett.
Adstock.	Lillingstone Dayrell.	Shalstone.
Calvert.	Maids Moreton.	Thornton.
Chackmore.	Padbury.	Tingewick.
Charndon.		Westbury.

The District Nurse and Health Visitor attended each Session, and a Medical Officer attended once monthly. Immunization against Diphtheria, Whooping cough, Poliomyelitis and Tetanus, was carried out at all centres. During the year attendances by children totalled 3,542.

Once again I should like to pay tribute to the good work done at these Clinics by the members of the Ladies' Voluntary Committees.

(*b*) *Chest Clinic.*—The Clinic holds weekly sessions and is administered jointly by the Regional Hospital Board and the County Health Department. A chest physician attends each session. It is equipped with X-ray plant and is doing excellent work.

(*c*) *Orthopaedic Clinic.*—This clinic is organized by the Wingfield-Morris Hospital, Oxford. It holds two sessions a month at the Town Hall, Buckingham, and an Orthopaedic surgeon attends alternate sessions.

5. Hospitals.

The following Hospitals served the area during the year :—

Buckingham Hospital.
Aylesbury Group.
Oxford Group.
Northampton Group.
Creaton Sanatorium.
Peppard Sanatorium.

6. Domestic Help Service.

This service, which for some time had been administered on behalf of the County Council by the Women's Voluntary Service, is now administered direct with two whole time Domestic Help Organizers covering the North Bucks Area.

During the year, 63 cases were assisted in the Buckingham area.

ANNUAL REPORT OF SURVEYOR AND CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

SECTION C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

1. Water Supply.

The Bucks Water Board, of which your Council is a constituent Authority, continued to supply every parish with water.

The Foscote Treatment Works have continued to operate satisfactorily throughout the year. The approximate daily gallonage supplied from these works during 1962 was 1,798,000, an increase of 48,000 gallons per day over the figure for 1961.

Average daily quantity of water supplied from the Foscote Treatment Works during the past five years :—

1958	1,370,000	gallons.
1959	1,518,000	,,
1960	1,500,000	,,
1961	1,750,000	,,
1962	1,798,000	,,

New Mains laid by the Board during the year :—

65 yards 3″ diameter main in the parish of Padbury.

57 yards 3″ diameter main in the parish of Stowe.

67 yards 3″ diameter main in the parish of Westbury.

Main Supply.

(*a*) Quantity—Satisfactory.

(*b*) Quality—Satisfactory.

(*c*) 1. Samples taken from the supply (which fell into Class I of the Ministry of Health's grading) 4

2. Samples taken from storage tanks and upon analysis found to be unsatisfactory 2

3. Samples taken from storage tanks and upon analysis found to be slightly contaminated (Informal action was taken in these cases with the owners of the premises concerned for the storage tanks to be thoroughly cleansed). 3

4. Samples taken from mixed supply, i.e., partly main supply and partly private supply and found upon analysis to be satisfactory 2

(*d*) Estimated number of premises on supply ... 2641

(*e*) Estimated number of population served ... 9243

Other Sources.

(*a*) Samples taken 7

(*b*) Samples found upon analysis to be unfit ... 5
(in these cases informal action was taken with the owners of the property concerned to provide a wholesome supply).

During the year 26 new dwellings and 8 existing dwellings (with no piped water supply) were connected to the Board's mains.

Summary of Results of Water Samples taken from other than Main Supply for Bacteriological Examination during the past Ten Years.

Year	*No. of Samples taken and examined*	*Result*	
		Satisfactory	*Unsatisfactory*
1953	7	3	4
1954	12	4	8
1955	12	1	11
1956	4	3	1
1957	6	2	4
1958	13	5	8
1959	12	5	7
1960	16	8	8
1961	9	2	7
1962	7	2	5
Totals	98	35	63
		64.29% unsatisfactory.	

2. Rivers and Streams.

The streams and water courses in a number of the smaller villages are still polluted by drainage effluent but every effort is made with the small labour force available to keep them cleaned out.

During the year the Council made a contribution towards the cost of cleaning out part of the Beachampton Brook and also cleaned out part of the Shalstone Brook by direct labour.

Investigations were carried out to trace the source of a severe pollution of the Lillingstone Dayrell Brook and it was found that silage liquor from a covered silo was gaining access to an old field drain which discharged into the Brook. Steps are being taken by the owners to construct a sump for the collection of the liquor and to prevent any recurrence of the pollution.

3. Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

Twyford.

Slow progress was made towards the completion of this scheme but by mid-summer the works and pumps were put in operation. By the end of the year there was still a number of items awaiting completion.

Charndon.

Some progress has been made towards the preparation of the final details of this scheme and it is hoped that the Council will be in a position to submit the scheme to the Ministry in the early Spring of 1963.

Maids Moreton.

Details of this scheme were submitted to the Minister during the year and he expressed his approval in principle to the scheme and to the discharge of sewage from Maids Moreton into the Buckingham Borough Council's sewer.

Although the scheme has been long protracted, it is hoped that tenders for the work will be received in the early Spring of 1963.

The following villages are now provided with modern sewage disposal works :—

Chackmore.	Completed in 1939.
Steeple Claydon.	Completed in 1939.
Tingewick.	Completed during the War by the War Department and taken over by the Council in 1949. Extended in 1956 by War Department.
Thornborough.	Completed in 1953.
Marsh Gibbon.	Completed in 1956.
Adstock and Padbury.	Completed in 1959.
Hillesden—Church End.	Completed in 1959.
The Hamlet.	Completed in 1960.
Water Stratford.	Completed in 1959.
Akeley.	Completed in 1960.
Twyford.	In operation.

These works functioned satisfactorily throughout the year and good effluent standards were maintained. The maintenance staff carried out their duties in a satisfactory manner.

Future Programme of Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The Council gave consideration to the preparation of a programme for the eight parishes named in the report of the Consulting Engineers dated 1955. The parishes concerned are as follows :—

Preston Bissett.	Beachampton.
Westbury.	Edgcott.
Shalstone.	Turweston.
Lillingstone Lovell.	Dadford.

The Council agreed that schemes for Preston Bissett, Westbury and Shalstone be prepared.

Farm Effluents

The Council appointed a sub-committee to report on the question of farm effluents which are now classified under the Public Health Act, 1961, as trade effluents.

It is hoped that an early decision will be reached on charges to be levied for this purpose.

General.

The Minister of Housing and Local Government appointed an Engineering Inspector to hold a review of sewerage and sewage disposal and this took place in March last. The Inspector was required to report on all aspects of sewerage and sewage disposal within the district and visited all the larger works and some of the small installations.

No adverse comments were received from the Ministry on this matter.

4. Water Closets.

During the year 73 water closets have been installed by the owners of private properties as follows :—

New premises ...	40
Existing premises	33

All the houses owned by the Council, i.e. 299 pre-War and 445 post-War are now provided with water closets. Additional internal water closets were installed during the year in each of 12 pre-War houses as part of conversion schemes involving the formation of bathrooms.

5. Public Cleansing.

The weekly kerbside collection of household refuse was carried out throughout the district during 1962 in a satisfactory manner. The scheme, which was implemented in October 1961, has worked extremely well.

The schedule of collection in operation is as follows :—

Every Monday— Beachampton ; Calvert ; Charndon ; Middle Claydon ; Thornborough and Thornton.

Every Tuesday— Addington ; Adstock ; Edgcott ; Padbury ; Steeple Claydon and Verney Junction.

Every Wednesday—Barton Hartshorne; Biddlesden; Chetwode; Hillesden ; Preston Bissett ; Shalstone ; Turweston and Westbury.

Every Thursday— Chackmore ; Maids Moreton ; Marsh Gibbon; Poundon ; Stowe and Twyford.

Every Friday— Akeley ; Foscote ; Leckhampstead ; Lillingstone Dayrell ; Lillingstone Lovell ; Radclive ; Tingewick and Water Stratford.

Both Paxit vehicles operated satisfactorily during the year and the Karrier sideloader also gave satisfactory service and was used for relief work on refuse collection, tip maintenance and for general sewerage and estate maintenance work.

All refuse was disposed of by tipping in a disused clay pit at Calvert. This tip is rented by the Council and has been in use for the past five years.

No difficulty was experienced in keeping the tip in a presentable condition, the mechanical angledozer proving its worth in this respect. During the year, 175 cubic yards of suitable excavated material was imported and used for the covering of the tip surface.

As in previous years, regular inspections and treatment for rodents were carried out and the tip face was sprayed with insecticides at frequent intervals to keep fly nuisance to a minimum.

Sixty-eight notices were served during the year under Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936, on the owners and occupiers of premises requiring them to provide a satisfactory dustbin. Twenty-seven bins were provided by the Council in default and an annual charge of 7s. 6d. made in respect of each dustbin provided.

Up to the 31st December, 1962, a total of 184 dustbins had been provided in default by the Council.

During the year, 61 litter baskets were purchased and erected by the Council in parishes within the district where such receptacles were required.

The total income from the sale of waste paper and scrap iron during the year amounted to £113 6s. 9d.

The work of cleansing septic tanks and cesspools continued to be carried out by contract at four-monthly intervals and has been executed in a satisfactory manner.

6. Schools.

The First Stage Programme for the provision of a new Primary School at Marsh Gibbon was completed.

By the end of 1962 the work on the new Primary

School at Padbury was well advanced and with the completion of these two schools, it is pleasing to note that the sixteen village schools in the district will be provided with modern sanitation.

Minor works and re-decoration have been carried out by the County Education Authority at various schools in the district during the year.

7. Swimming Baths.

There are no public swimming baths in the Rural District but rural residents in the summertime, as well as school children, used the open air one in the Borough of Buckingham.

8. Rodent Control.

Work during the year by the rodent operative has again been carried out satisfactorily.

Work of Inspection and Control.

(*a*) Number of Complaints received	132
(*b*) Number of Properties inspected and visits carried out	1909
(*c*) Number of properties found infested with rats	219
(*d*) Number of Properties found infested with mice	23

The revenue derived from treatment of business premises during the year amounted to £124 3s. 6d.

9. Miscellaneous.

New Council Depot.

Tenders were invited for the construction of a new depot, making provision for workshop accommodation, storage and garage for vehicles.

Excellent progress was made by the Contractors and the works completed by the end of October.

Maintenance Work

The turnover rate of persons engaged in general maintenance, refuse collection, sewage disposal, drainage and ditch cleansing, was not quite so high as in previous years.

Maintenance work was carried out in a satisfactory manner and I would like to record my thanks to your outside staff for the conscientious manner in which they have carried out their duties throughout the year.

A brief summary of other inspections and visits made during 1962 is appended below :—

Total number of visits to premises	2592
Complaints received	39
Informal notices served	61
Statutory Notices served :	
Section 75, Public Health Act 1936	68

Factories Act 1961

The table below shows the position during 1962 as far as work-places and factories are concerned and the inspections made for purposes as to health and sanitation.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors) :

Premises (1)	*Number on Register* (2)	*Number of*		
		Inspections (3)	*Written Notices* (4)	*Occupier prosecuted* (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authoritties	3	12	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	19	13	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total ...	22	25	Nil	Nil

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found :—

Particulars (1)	*Number of cases in which defects were found*				*Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted* (6)
	Found (2)	*Remedied* (3)	*Referred* *To H.M. Inspector* (4)	*By H.M. Inspector* (5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1) ...	2	2	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6).	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary conveniences (S.7) (a) Insufficient	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective.	3	3	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the act (not including offences relating to Outwork.)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total ...	5	5	Nil	Nil	Nil

Part VIII of The Act—Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)—Nil.

The Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

Number of Site Licences issued	5
Number of Inspections	34
Nuisances found to exist	1

Drainage.

Good progress has been made in this field of operations and during the year alterations and the relaying of defective drainage systems were carried out at 40 existing premises.

Fifteen septic tanks, serving twenty-four dwellings, were constructed during the year.

Number of New drains examined	70
Number of visits for that purpose	194
Number of W.C.'s installed	73
Number of new soil and ventilating pipes installed	62

Petroleum (Regulations) Acts 1928 and 1936.

During the licensing year 1962, two underground tanks were subjected to a pressure re-test. One of these tanks failed the test.

Number of Petroleum Licences, December 1962 :—

500 gallons or less	30
Over 500 gallons but not more than 1,000 gallons	8
Over 1,000 gallons	5
Total licences issued	43
Number of tests carried out	3

One new tank was installed and tested during the year.

Infectious Diseases.

Enquiries in cases of infectious disease	4
Number of visits re disinfection	Nil

Housing and Building Byelaws.

A total of 168 plans was deposited for byelaw approval during the year; the same number was deposited during 1961. 154 applications were made for Planning consent of which 23 were refused.

The work of building and planning control continues to take up much of the Department's time. It has become apparent that the existing inspectoral staff will not be able to cope much longer without extra assistance and the Council should consider the question of engaging an assistant in the Department for this aspect of the work.

Number of plans deposited for new houses ... (Involving 33 new housing units)	14
Number of plans deposited for other works ...	154
Visits in connection with building byelaws ...	684

Other Classified Visits.

Housing visits under the Housing Acts	107
Housing visits under the Public Health Acts ...	15
Visits re water supply	37
Visits re drainage and sewerage	84
Visits re refuse collection	147
Visits re refuse disposal	77
Visits in connection with sewage disposal ...	345
Schools	13
General nuisances	34
Overcrowding	Nil
Visits to Shops and Licensed Premises	215
Visits to Canteens	8
Unclassified	34
Stables and Piggeries	18

SECTION D.

Housing

The total number of Council Houses erected Post War is now 445. The rate of progress during the year increased slightly from that of the previous year, the figures for the last three years being 11, 4 and 18 respectively. By the end of the year, six bungalows and 4 houses were under construction as compared with 14 houses and 4 bungalows the previous year.

Erection of Post War Council Houses up to December 1962

Parish	*Houses*	*Bungalows*	*Total Completed*	*UnderConstruction*
Adstock	16	—	16	—
Akeley	16	—	16	—
Beachampton	10	—	10	—
Biddlesden	4	—	4	—
Charndon	6	—	6	6
Chetwode	4	—	4	—
Edgcott	8	—	8	—
Hillesden	10	—	10	—
Leckhampstead	4	—	4	—
Lillingstone Lovell ...	4	—	4	—
Maids Moreton	15	—	15	—
Marsh Gibbon	28	2	30	—
Middle Claydon	4	—	4	—
Padbury	30	—	30	4
Poundon	3	—	3	—
Preston Bissett	17	2	19	—
Radclive-cum-Chackmore	4	—	4	—
Steeple Claydon... ...	62	45	107	—
Stowe	2	—	2	—
Thornborough	22	—	22	—
Thornton	4	—	4	—
Tingewick	51	17	68	—
Turweston	6	—	6	—
Twyford	28	—	28	—
Water Stratford ...	—	4	4	—
Westbury	17	—	17	—
Total	375	70	445	10

Total number of houses erected and occupied during the year 1962 18
Total number of houses built and owned by the Authority 744
Pre-War—299. Post-War—445.

Erection of Post War Houses by Private Enterprise up to December 1962

Parish	*Houses*	*Bungalows*	*Total Completed*	*Under Construction*	*By Other Authorities*
Akeley	1	4	5	1	
Adstock	16	1	17	—	
Barton Hartshorne ...	—	1	1	—	
Beachampton	4	—	4	—	
Biddlesden	5	2	7	—	
Charndon	5	12	17	—	
Chetwode	—	1	1	—	
Edgcott	2	—	2	1	
Hillesden	2	1	3	—	
Leckhampstead	1	—	1	—	
Lillingstone Lovell ...	—	1	1	—	
Maids Moreton	5	6	11	1	
Marsh Gibbon	8	6	14	—	
Middle Claydon	2	—	2	—	
Padbury	7	3	10	5	
Poundon	4	—	4	2	
Preston Bissett	—	2	2	—	
Radclive-cum-Chackmore	5	1	6	—	
Shalstone	1	2	3	—	
Steeple Claydon	7	6	13	3	
Stowe	20	3	23	4	
Thornborough	5	5	10	—	
Thornton	—	2	2	—	
Tingewick	1	6	7	—	
Turweston	2	1	3	—	
Twyford	4	2	6	—	
Water Stratford	1	1	2	—	
Westbury	10	4	14	1	
Total	118	73	191	18	

Total number of houses erected and occupied during the year 1962 28
Houses erected by other Authorities and occupied during 1962 3

The year has seen a further increase in the number of private enterprise houses erected over the figure for 1961. A total of 28 dwellings was completed and occupied during the year, this being the greatest number of private houses erected in any one of the post War years.

Tenders were invited for the erection of 14 houses included in the Fourteenth Building Programme, which is as follows :—

Charndon—6 dwellings—Tender, £12,940 0s. 0d.
Padbury— 4 dwellings—Tender, £7,355 8s. 6d.
Twyford— 4 dwellings—Tender, £7,256 4d. 8d.

The Council decided to install underfloor heating in two of the Old Peoples' Bungalows to be erected at Twyford.

Improvement of Existing Council Houses.

The total number of houses improved with the aid of Standard Grant up to the end of the year is 87.

During the latter part of the year, tenders were invited for the provision of hot water in a further 26 houses.

By the end of the year hot water systems had been installed in a further 25 houses and conversion works for the provision of bathrooms, W.Cs., etc., were completed in respect of 12 houses.

A summary of the action taken with regard to Slum Clearance is shewn in the following table :—

SLUM CLEARANCE — First Programme

Summary of Action Taken from October 1955 to 31st December 1962

Parish	Number of Unfit Houses in Slum Clearance Programme	Action Taken								Owned by Local Authority resolution to demolish	Informal Action	Action to be Taken—Remaining
		Clearance Area Made (Number of Premises)	Demolition Order Made	Closing Order Made	Undertaking not to re-let for human habitation	Undertaking to make fit for human habitation	Demolished	Deleted from Programme	Represented and upon which action was deferred			
Adstock	8		8				8					Nil
Barton Hartshorne	1		1				1					Nil
Charndon	6	6										Nil
Hillesden	4		4				4					Nil
Maids Moreton ...	12‡	9	3				3					Nil
Marsh Gibbon ...	6			1		3†						2*
Padbury	8		6		2		8					Nil
Preston Bissett ...	14		2	1	6		4	1		2	2	Nil
Steeple Claydon ...	1				1							Nil
Thornborough ...	9		3		1		5	3			2	Nil
Tingewick ...	8		4	1		3(1†)	4					Nil
Turweston ...	3						1		2		1	2
Twyford	12	7	5				12					Nil
Water Stratford ...	5		2			2†	2				1†	Nil
Totals	97‡	22	38	3	10	8	52	4	2	2	6	4

Note.—*Action to be deferred during present tenant's lifetime. †Rendered fit.
‡Amended figure

It will be seen from this summary that action has been taken in respect of 93 properties out of a total of 97 (amended) included in the first programme. Of the remaining 4 properties, two at Turweston have been represented and action deferred and in respect of two houses at Marsh Gibbon action has been deferred during the present tenants' lifetime.

Formal representation in respect of 9 properties, in two areas, at Maids Moreton, was made during the year and these were declared to be Clearance Areas within the meaning of the Housing Act, 1957, and the statutory orders, maps and documents submitted to the Minister of Housing and Local Government for confirmation.

Other Dwellings not included in the Slum Clearance Programme but dealt with during 1962.

Marsh Gibbon	1 Cottage, Closing Order (Section 17).
Stowe ...	1 Cottage, Undertaking not to relet for human habitation (Section 16).

With the virtual completion of the first slum clearance programme, the Council gave further consideration to those premises on the deferred lists, together with additional properties considered to be unfit for habitation.

SLUM CLEARANCE — Second Programme

Summary of Action taken by 31st December, 1962.

Parish	*Number of unfit houses in programme*	*Action taken*	*Action to be taken*
Chetwode ...	4	4 represented and under consideration ...	Nil
Hillesden ...	2		2
Maids Moreton	1		1
Padbury ...	2	2 represented and under consideration ...	Nil
Stowe ...	1		1
Thornborough	2		2
Tingewick ...	7		7
	19		13

Houses included in Clearance Orders confirmed by the Minister Pre-War but not yet demolished.

Parish	*No. of Houses*	*No. still occupied*	*No. of persons in occupation*
Stowe ...	7	2	6

Inspection and Action During the Year.

Number of Houses found to be in a state unfit for habitation	18
Number of Houses in respect of which an undertaking was signed to render the premises fit for habitation	2
Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was signed that the premises owned would not be re-let for habitation	1
Number of houses found to be unfit and upon which a Demolition order was made ...	2
Number of houses found to be unfit and upon which a Closing Order was made	1
Number of houses found to be unfit and under consideration	6
Number of houses found to be unfit and upon which a Clearance Order was made	9

Overcrowding.

No cases of overcrowding were investigated during the year.

The House Purchase and Housing Act 1959.

The number of applications received for improvement grants, to say the least, is very disappointing, for it was hoped that with the increased rent permitted by the Housing Act, 1961, landlords would have taken full advantage in carrying out these very necessary improvements.

There are a large number of dwellings in the district which still have a useful life but which are lacking in modern amenities and it would appear that pressure will have to be brought to bear and legislation introduced to compel owners to modernise.

Discretionary Improvement Grants. Seven applications for grants in respect of eight premises were made, five of which received approval and the maximum grant of 50% was recommended in each case. One application was still under consideration at the end of 1962 and one application in respect of the conversion of two cottages into one unit of accommodation was refused.

The total grant aid approved during the year amounted to £1,776 0. 0. an average of £355 4. 0. per house.

Discretionary Grants—Completions

Year	*No. of Dwellings to be improved*	*Additional Units to be provided by conversion*
1951	1	–
1952	–	1
1953	–	–
1954	9	–
1955	16	2
1956	19	–
1957	19	–
1958	11	3
1959	12	–
1960	25	–
1961	27	3
1962	8	–
	147	9

Number of Properties in respect of which grants were approved by the Council during 1962 5

Amount of Grant Aid approved by the Council during 1962 ... ... £1,776 0. 0.

Total number of Properties in respect of which grants were approved by the Council to the 31st December 1962 172

Total amount of Grant Aid approved by the Council to the 31st December 1962 ... £52,747 18. 3.

Standard Improvement Grants.

Applications approved during 1962

Premises	*No. of Premises involved*	*Standard amenities to be provided*				
		W.C.	*Wash Basin*	*Bath in Bath-room*	*Hot Water supply*	*Food Store*
Adstock	1	1	1	1	1	–
Akeley	1	1	1	1	–	–
Edgcott	1	1	–	–	–	1
Leckhampstead ...	1	1	1	1	–	–
Preston Bissett ...	1	1	1	1	1	–
Tingewick	2	2	2	1	2	1
Total	7	7	6	5	4	2

Up to the 31st December 1962, works for the provision of standard amenities have been completed in respect of 36 properties.

Amount of grant aid approved by the Council during 1962 (maximum) :—£755. 0s. 0d.

Total number of properties in respect of which grants were approved by the Council to 31st December, 1962 : 42.

Total amount of grant aid approved by the Council to 31st December, 1962 (maximum) :—£4,660 0s. 0d.

Actual amount of grant paid by the Council to 31st December, 1962 :—£2,314 10s. 0d. in respect of 24 properties.

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk.

It is pleasing to note that no report was received regarding the existence of tuberculosis or brucella abortus in dairy herds.

Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949.

Number of Dairies registered	1
Inspections	4

All dealer's licences, other than those issued by the Ministry are now issued by the County Council, as the Food and Drugs Authority.

Ice Cream

Total number of retailers on register	52
New applications received and Premises registered	4
Inspections	16

Samples of ice cream have been taken from premises serving ice cream to the public. These samples were sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Oxford, for bacteriological examination by the methylene blue reduction test and were graded as follows :—

Provisional Grade	I	11
Do.	II	Nil
Do.	III	3
Do.	IV	Nil

This test affords a simple means for the grading of the bacteriological cleanliness of ice cream.

Meat and Slaughterhouses.

During the year a total of 2,050 animals was slaughtered for meat in the two licensed private slaughterhouses in the district and I am pleased to state that once again 100% inspection of the meat after slaughter was carried out. The percentage increase of animals killed over the year 1961 was 32.9. This was mainly due to animals being slaughtered for butchers outside the district.

It is with every satisfaction that I have to report for the third year in succession that no cases of tuberculosis were found in adult cattle slaughtered during the year. The eradication of bovine tuberculosis by the attested herd scheme and latterly by attested areas will benefit both public health and also farming economy.

There were three cases of localised cysticercosis as compared with one case the previous year.

Out of the total of 483 pigs slaughtered, 13 were found to be affected with localized tuberculosis on post mortem examination. The percentage of the carcases inspected, affected by tuberculosis, remained at 2.69 the same as the year 1961.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or part :

	Cattle excluding Cows	*Cows*	*Calves*	*Sheep and Lambs*	*Pigs*	*Horses*
Number killed ...	265	1	—	1301	483	—
Number inspected	265	1	—	1301	483	—
All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci. Whole carcases condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	63	1	—	55	71	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	23.77	100	—	4.20	14.7	—
Tuberculosis only. Whole carcases condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	13	—
Percentage of the inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	2.69	—
Cysticercosis Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	3	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

Parts or Organs condemned are classified as follows :

	Veal	*Beef*	*Pork*	*Mutton*	*Total*
Whole Carcase ...	—	—	—	—	—
Plucks	—	—	4	—	4
Livers	—	54	21	49	124
Heads and Tongues	—	2	12	—	14
Hearts	—	1	6	1	8
Lungs	—	7	30	7	44
Part carcase ...	—	2	4	—	6
Miscellaneous ...	—	4	6	—	10

Approximate total weight 7 cwts. 2 qrs. 12¾ lbs.

Number of licensed slaughterhouses	2
Visits to slaughterhouses	165
Visits to Butchers' shops	170
Number of licensed slaughtermen	7

Food Premises.

The premises coming within the purview of the Regulations are summarised as follows :—

School Canteens	16
Private School Kitchens	5
Factory Canteens	1
Hospital Kitchens	2
Licensed Clubs	5
Licensed Public Houses	36
Mobile Fish and Chip Vans	1
Shops—General Stores	39
Butchers	7
Bakers	1
Fishmongers	2
Total	115

A total of 209 visits and inspections was carried out at these premises during the year.

The standard of hygiene and cleanliness in the majority of the premises is reasonably good. There is no doubt that the public generally are becoming more hygiene conscious.

Food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955 are classified as follows :—

Ice Cream (registered for the storage and sale) ...	52
Mobile Vans (for frying of fish and chips) ...	1
Manufacture of Sausages	7

Knackers Yards.

There are no licensed Knackers Yards in the district.

Other Foods.

No other food was condemned during the year.

Disposal of Condemned Food.

All butchers' meat and other foods condemned as unfit are disposed of by burial under the control of the Department.

Food Poisoning.

No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

Bakehouses.

Number on register	1
Number of visits	2
Contravention of Regulations	1

John C. Sharpe,

Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector

SECTION F.

Prevalence of, and Control Over, Infectious and Other Diseases

GENERAL.

We were very free from epidemics during the year.

NOTIFICATIONS.

Disease	*Male*	*Female*	*Total*
Measles	4	5	9
Acute Primary Pneumonia ...	3	2	5
Scarlet Fever ...	1	1	2
Total ...	8	8	16

CANCER.

There were 19 deaths during the year, six more than in 1961.

TUBERCULOSIS.

No cases were notified during the year. There was one death.

DANIEL H. WALDRON,

Medical Officer of Health.